

Glen Meadows Retirement Community
Annual Drinking Water Quality Report For 2009

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We're very pleased to provide you with this year's Annual Water Quality Report. We want to keep you informed about the excellent water and services we have delivered to you over the past year. Our goal is and always has been, to provide to you a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. Our water source is two wells that draw from an underground aquifer. Well number one is at a depth of 300 feet and well number two is 150 feet in deep.

This report shows our water quality and what it means.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbiological contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water, please contact Jack Bradshaw at 410-926-9192. We want our residents to be informed about their water.

Glen Meadows Retirement Community routinely monitors for contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. This table shows the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1st to December 31st, 2009. As water travels over the land or underground, it can pick up substances or contaminants such as microbes, inorganic and organic chemicals, and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled drinking water, may be reasonably expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. It's important to remember that the presence of these contaminants does not necessarily pose a health risk.

In this table you will find many terms and abbreviations you might not be familiar with. To help you better understand these terms we've provided the following definitions:

Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/l) - one part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.

Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter - one part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.

Picocuries per liter (pCi/L) - picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.

Action Level - the concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level - The "Maximum Allowed" (MCL) is the highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal - The "Goal"(MCLG) is the level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

TEST RESULTS						
Contaminant	Violation Y/N	Level Detected	Unit Measurement	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Radioactive Contaminants						
Alpha emitters (2007)	N	2.0	pCi/l	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Beta/photon emitters (2007)	N	3.0	pCi/l	0	50	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Combined radium (226 & 228)	N	< 1.1	pCi/l	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Inorganic Contaminants						
Copper (2008)	N	0.19	ppm	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (2008)	Y	16.0	ppb	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits
Nitrate (as Nitrogen)	N	5.1	ppm	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	N	0.13	ppm	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Synthetic Organic Contaminants including Pesticides and Herbicides						
Di (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (2007)	N	2.4	ppb	0	6	Discharge from rubber and chemical factories
Unregulated Contaminants						
Chloroform	N	5.2	ppb	N/A	N/A	By product of chlorine disinfection
Bromoform	N	1.0	ppb	N/A	N/A	By product of chlorine disinfection
Bromodichloromethane	N	4.5	ppb	N/A	N/A	By product of chlorine disinfection
Dibromochloromethane	N	3.2	ppb	N/A	N/A	By product of chlorine disinfection

Note: Test results are for year 2009 unless otherwise noted; all tests are not required on an annual basis.

We are required to complete lead and copper monitoring every three (3) years. The previously collected samples in 2008 detected a level for lead that slightly exceeded the Action Level (AL) for that contaminant. You were informed at the time through the posting of a lead public education notice. Subsequent to the sampling and analysis of Lead and Copper, repairs were made to the systems water softening equipment which may have contributed to the slightly elevated Lead levels due to excessive water hardness. Follow-up sampling for Lead and Copper is scheduled. We will continue to work on this problem until it can be resolved and our system can return to full compliance. We will keep you informed as necessary.

“If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Glen Meadows Retirement Community is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your drinking water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.”

Lead: Lead in drinking water is rarely the sole cause of lead poisoning, but it can add to a person's total lead exposure. All potential sources of lead in the household should be identified and removed, replaced or reduced.

Nitrate in drinking water at levels above 10 ppm is a health risk for infants of less than six months of age. High nitrate levels in drinking water can cause blue baby syndrome. Nitrate levels may rise quickly for short periods of time because of rainfall or agricultural activity. If you are caring for an infant you should ask advice from your health care provider.

This Annual Water Quality Report, also referred to as a Consumer Confidence Report (CCR), is required to be completed each year by all public water systems and distributed to their residents by July 1st. A copy of the report must also be provided to MDE by that date. As part of the report and in compliance with the National Primary Drinking Water Regulation (NPDWR) explanation for any violation or any potential health effects must be fully disclosed along with the steps the system has taken to correct the situation. GMRC can report there has been no violations in the finished (treated) water being supplied to our residents. There was a cause for concern in the raw (untreated) water. Specifically, on October 28th, 2009 the raw water storage pool was very turbid upon routine check. This turbidity occurred after a significant rain event. (2"). Samples were collected and analyzed and determined to be high in total and fecal coliform. Fecal coliform is an indicator organism detecting the presence of waste from humans or warm-blooded animals and indicates are wells could be at risk of contamination by bacteria, viruses and possibly protozoa such as Giardia and Cryptosporidium which are resistant to chlorine treatment. Upon receipt of this information MDE was notified and more extensive raw water testing was required. Since then, and carrying over into this year (2010) GMRC management has worked closely with MDE and ELA Group (engineering firm) to determine the cause and corrective action needed to remedy this problem. We will keep you informed as we proceed.

All sources of drinking water are subject to potential contamination by substances that are naturally occurring or man made. These substances can be microbes, inorganic or organic chemicals and radioactive substances. All drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791.

MCLs are set at very stringent levels. To understand the possible health effects described for many regulated contaminants, a person would have to drink 2 liters of water every day at the MCL level for a lifetime to have a one-in-a-million chance of having the described health effect.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this Water Quality Report (CCR) for 2009. If you need additional information or have questions concerning this matter please do not hesitate to contact Tom Connors, Director of Operations or Jack Bradshaw, Plant Superintendent for Water and Wastewater at Glen Meadows Retirement Community.

